

RESOLUTION OF SOLIDARITY WITH WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS
By the Board-Appointed Faculty of Western Michigan University

WHEREAS the Board-appointed faculty of Western Michigan University, represented by our collective-bargaining chapter of the American Association of University Professors, stands for academic excellence, shared governance, higher education as a public good, and academic freedom;

WHEREAS our core academic mission includes instruction, research, scholarship, creative activity, and professional service;

WHEREAS this work is foundational to the development of our students as knowledgeable and engaged citizens, informed participants in the democratic process, and possessors of a spirit of tolerance and acceptance;

WHEREAS the intellectual character of a university is determined by its faculty;

WHEREAS the faculty therefore also appropriately models character for our students and for the community in other ways, including in our ethical principles and moral convictions;

WHEREAS these values inform our understanding and acceptance of the immense and humbling responsibility that we carry in the form of our students' trust in us that we will treat them with respect, fairness, compassion, and generosity of spirit;

WHEREAS the faculty takes seriously its role in modeling, teaching, and facilitating critical thinking and respectful discourse;

WHEREAS we recognize the challenges inherent in the exploration of controversial issues and ideas as well as the intellectual growth that can result from engaging these ideas respectfully and thinking critically about them;

WHEREAS many Western Michigan University students are now feeling vulnerable, unwelcome, or even fearful for their safety and wellbeing, or for the safety and wellbeing of their classmates;

**WHEREAS EVERY STUDENT IS WELCOME AT WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
AND DESERVES TO FEEL ACCEPTED, INCLUDED, EMPOWERED, AND SAFE HERE;**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board-appointed faculty of Western Michigan University, individually and collectively, stands in solidarity with the students of this university and extends to them our attention, our understanding, our support, our advocacy, and – when and if they need it – our protection, at this singular moment in our nation's history and always.

Approved by the WMU-AAUP faculty on November 18, 2016

The WMU-AAUP is Western Michigan University's collective-bargaining chapter of the American Association of University Professors, comprising WMU's Board-appointed faculty in its entirety. With 900 members, the WMU-AAUP is an active community of teachers, scholars, researchers, and creative artists committed to student success, academic excellence, shared governance, higher education as a public good, and demonstrating the value of collective action to ensure a thriving democratic society.